

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 180126  
ORIGIN EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 INR-10 IO-13 /041 R

DRAFTED BY EA/K:RGRICH, JR.:JCM  
APPROVED BY EA/K - MR. BLAKEMORE  
-----062007 172043Z /62  
R 172015Z JUL 78  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL

S E C R E T STATE 180126

STADIS////////////////////////////////////

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MORG, MOPS, KS, US

SUBJECT: MARINE AMPHIBIOUS FORCE LANDING EXERCISE (MAFLEX)

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM RICH

REF: SEOUL 3217

1. SINCE OUR DISCUSSION OF MAFLEX BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE, WE HAVE NOW LEARNED THAT EARLIER PLANS FOR THREE-BATTALION EXERCISE HAVE NOW BEEN SCRUBBED BY MARINE CORPS AND THAT MAFLEX WILL NOW BE ONLY A ONE-BATTALION EXERCISE AS CONDUCTED IN PREVIOUS YEARS IN POHANG AREA.

2. SINCE THIS WOULD SEEM TO REMOVE ALL MAJOR MILITARY REASONS FOR NEEDING TO CONDUCT THE EXERCISE IN THE NORTH NEAR KANGNUNG, WOULD APPRECIATE IT IF YOU WOULD ASCERTAIN CURRENT THINKING IN UNC. DEFENSE HERE STILL SEEMS TO ASSUME EXERCISE SHOULD BE IN KANGNUNG AREA IN

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FULFILLMENT OF OUR 10TH SCM COMMITMENT TO MORE FREQUENT AND MORE VISIBLE MILITARY EXERCISES.

3. WE IN EA ARE STILL DUBIOUS ABOUT ANOTHER EXERCISE NEAR DMZ AREA SO SOON AFTER HIGHLY VISIBLE TEAM SPIRIT 78. AWACS DEPLOYMENT (SEPTTEL) TO WESTPAC AND KOREA DEMONSTRATION WILL ALSO FALL IN SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER TIME

PERIOD AND THEREFORE DEMONSTRATION EFFECT OF MAFLEX AT  
THIS TIME MAY NOT BE NEEDED. WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR  
FURTHER INSIGHTS BEFORE TAKING UP AGAIN WITH DOD THE  
OPTION OF MOVING MAFLEX BACK SOUTH TO THE POHANG AREA.  
CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY EXERCISES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 17 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978STATE180126  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** RGRICH, JR.:JCM  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
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**Expiration:**  
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**TAGS:** MORG, MOPS, KS, US  
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**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
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